Page 6, last paragraph bridging to page 7:

The interrelationship between safety device 2 and vial 10, in particular the mating of device 2 to vial 10, is best illustrated in Figs. 7 and 8. To get to its final position with respect to vial body 8 as shown in Figs 7 and 8, collar 4 of device 2 is first placed at end 31, i.e., the glass end, of vial body 8. Collar 4 is then matingly fitted to vial body 8 and matably slid along body 8 towards hub 28 until it is moved to a position adjacent hub 28 as shown in Figs. 7 and 8. Given that device 2 is made of a plastic material and neck member 12 is formulated to have an elastic characteristic that makes it flexible, as latch member 20 comes into contact with body 8, neck member 12 is flexibly pushed away from body 8. As collar 4 is moved towards hub 28, latch member 20 maintains its guided contact with body 8. When latch member 20 comes into contact with the side surface of hub 28, it causes neck member 12 to flex even further away, so as to allow collar 4 to continually be pushed towards hub 28.

Page 7, first full paragraph:

At the location as shown in Figs. 7 and 8 where collar 4 is positioned adjacent to hub 28, given its elastic property, with lip 22 of latch member 20 being positioned at shoulder 33 of hub 28, neck member 12 would snappingly flex back to its original position to thereby cause latch member 20 to coact with shoulder 33 of hub 28 to thereby latch lip 22 onto shoulder 33. As a consequence, collar 4 is fixedly coupled to vial body 8 and hub 28 thereof. And absent a concerted effort by the user to push neck member 12 away from hub 28, collar 4 could not be removed from body 8.

Page 8, first paragraph:

Once collar 4 is positioned as shown in Figs. 7 and 8, to prevent a contaminated needle such as for example needle 26 from being further exposed to the environment, the user only needs to pivot housing 14 in the direction as shown by directional arrow 18. Once housing 14 is moved to a position in substantial alignment along the longitudinal axis of body 8 of vial 10, the tips 35 of hooks 30 and 35 would first bias

needle 26 and then lockingly grip the same, to thereby fixedly retain needle 26 within housing 14.

Page 9, last paragraph:

Fig. 11 illustrates the interrelationship of a vial fitted with the safety device of the instant invention and a holder applicator such as for example a Carpuject applicator. As shown, holder 46 has an elongated housing 48 having a cavity 50. The side of housing 48 facing the reader is opened to the environment and an aperture 52 is formed at its opposite side. At the tip of housing 48 there is a an opening or channel 54. At its other end housing 48 is mounted to a finger grip base 56. A bore (not shown) extends through base 56.

In the Claims

Please amend claim 1 and 5 as follows:

1. (Amended) Safety device usable with a vial, said vial having mounted to one of its ends a hub from which a needle extends, said safety device comprising:

a collar slidably matable about said vial;

a neck member extending from said collar;

a housing pivotably connected to end of said neck member away from said collar; and

a latch member extending from said neck member in a direction towards center of said collar, said latch member coacting with said hub to prevent said collar from being removed from said vial once said collar has been mated about said vial and moved to be substantially adjacent said hub.

5. (Amended) Safety device of claim 4, wherein said locking means comprises a hook integrated to interior of said housing for holding said needle fixed relative to said housing once said housing is pivoted to said alignment position and said needle biases and then is held by said hook.